



SHOW HOST: Brian Dowling

EXCLUSIVE

by DOMINIK LEMANSKI

THE cream of the showbiz world will be jostling for silverware tonight at the Variety Club Showbiz Awards.

Stars from the stage, television, music, film and radio are set to battle it out at the ceremony at London's Park Lane Hilton Hotel.

Celebrity guests including Simon Cowell, Carol Vorderman and Peter Kay will be at the bash to celebrate the brightest talents in British entertainment.

Big Brother 3 winner Brian Dowling, 27, and former Hear'Say singer Myleene Klass, 27, are hosting the event, the 53rd Variety Club bash.

Battle

And the awards are being sponsored by Express Newspapers, owner of the Daily Star Sunday.

Phoenix Nights star Kay will battle it out with The Office's Ricky Gervais and comedienne Catherine Tate for the Comedy Award while Coldplay, Katie Melua, James Blunt and Franz Ferdinand are all nominated for Recording Artist Of The Year. Meanwhile

Starry starry night

Cowell, Jamie Oliver and chef Gordon Ramsay are up for best Terrestrial Television Personality Award.

Host Brian, who wowed audiences with his high-energy performance on Big Brother In 2001, said: "I am so excited to be involved in this. Some of the people attending have been on TV for years."

"It will go down in history that I helped present the awards for 2005."

"I am particularly looking forward to seeing Katie Melua perform."

"She is amazing - she has sold thousands and thousands of records. I am also keen to meet Gordon

Ramsay - he is such a big name so it is great to have him there."

Pop babe Myleene said: "These awards bring together the cream of showbusiness."

"I will meet a few heroes of mine on the day and I'm sure I'll love working with Brian for the first time."

Viewers can watch the Variety Club Showbiz Awards on LIVINGtv at 9pm on Sunday November 27.

The Variety Club supports disabled and disadvantaged kids. If you want to help call 0207 428 8100 or visit the website at www.varietyclub.org.uk and click on Make A Donation.



MEETING HEROES: Pop babe Myleene Klass is co-host





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15k? THAT'S A BIT RUFFFFFF



YOU PAW THING: Lisa Simpkins wouldn't swap her Zeus

ZEUS the English Bull Terrier has been named Britain's unluckiest dog.

In just five years he's clocked up 189 visits to the vet - costing nearly £15,000 in medical bills.

The pooch has been blighted by poor health since he was a puppy. He's allergic to dust and pollen, suffers constant tummy pains, gastroenteritis, behavioural problems, skin irritations, lameness and has a benign tumour. Even

EXCLUSIVE
—by EMMA SHANKLAND—

playtime's a nightmare - he once got a ball stuck in his throat playing catch and needed it surgically removed.

And his lifetime medical bills are predicted to hit nearly £30,000.

Sorry

His doting owner, 38-year-old Lisa Simpkins, from Swindon, Wiltshire, said: "I'd be the poorest pet owner if I hadn't had him insured - I've had to claim 50 times already."

"I doubt the vet's seen the last of Zeus yet but I'd never change him for

HOLLYWOOD

Tinsel Town Tittle Tattle

By SANDRO MONETTI in Los Angeles

★ **RONNIE Wood** has continued to add to his reputation as the Rembrandt of rock with a display of his art at one of LA's finest galleries, 319. The Rolling Stones guitarist has impressed art critics with his brushwork and says: "It's good to make more use of the talent I was born with."

★ **JENNIFER Lopez** bought 18 cookbooks on a single trip to a Los Angeles kitchenware shop. She is preparing to cook a big meal when husband Marc Anthony's family visit later this month and wants to have lots of recipe options.

★ **SCARLETT Johansson** just can't understand why she's considered a sex symbol. The movie beauty says: "I think there's something boyish about my face. I sometimes look at myself in the mirror and think I look like a prepubescent boy."

★ **JUST** as he's about to start directing a new film *Apocalypse* in Mexico, Mel Gibson has been laid low by Montezuma's Revenge. He said: "My mouth likes the local food but my stomach doesn't."

★ **TWIGGY** says she feels like the odd woman out in Los Angeles because she's not had Botox. "It's a whole city of people whose faces don't move," despaired the British beauty.

★ **PIERCE Brosnan** got loaded up on tequila in order to successfully play a drunk in his new movie *The Matador*. The ex-007 said: "I've tried that to play drunk is not to play drunk scenario but it messes with my head. Tequila first thing in the morning helps best."

★ **ROBERT De Niro** is annoying New Yorkers with the noisy building work on his new hotel. Mechanical diggers have started up as early as 5.30am and nearby residents repeatedly complain about the loud machinery.

★ **HUGH Laurie** is refusing to move his family out to Hollywood even though his hit US TV show *House* looks set to run for years. He said: "It's difficult because I have teenage kids and they're bigger than me. Two of them are in a band and I can't break up the band."

★ **RUSSELL Crowe** and **Brad Pitt** look set to star together for the first time in a new sci-fi series. The two lead roles in the movie of Jack Kerouac's cult novel *On The Road*.

★ **FORMER Showgirls** sexpot **Elizabeth Berkley** is back on screen in a new sci-fi series. The blonde beauty plays a pregnant woman possessed by aliens in *Threshold*, which starts on Sky next week.

★ **CHER** looks to be getting itchy feet again. The actress and singer recently said she had retired from doing live concerts. But she is now mulling over an offer to embark on another farewell tour. She revealed: "I did it for years and I do miss it."

★ **COURTNEY Love** is planning a cartoon version of her life - with her alter ego Princess Ali taking the lead role. She said: "She does all the bad things that I am not allowed to do." Love is currently looking for a TV network to take up the option of making the cartoon.

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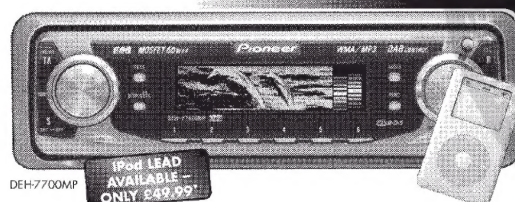
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Sex rap priests

CATHOLIC priests are facing 44 charges of child abuse.

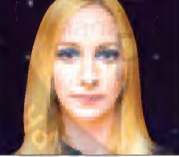
Church leaders and parents of alleged victims are in deadlock after three years of talks over damages.

During that time more than 560 cases have been investigated. The scandal now threatens to swamp courts in Los Angeles.

One lawyer involved in the \$1billion case said yesterday: "These actions range from fondling to rape and date from 1958 to 1985."

"Juries could be tied up dealing with this for many months."

DON'T MISS YOUR STARS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD Take5



PRINCE Charles and Camilla banned TV bosses from filming them having sex.

ITV wanted to show them getting hot and steamy in the bedroom in a new £3.5million drama about their affair.

But the royal couple threatened to sue them if any bedroom action was shown in the 90-minute one-off

CENSORED

Charles axes sex scenes

EXCLUSIVE
by PAT CODD

drama. Whatever Love Means, to be shown during Christmas.

It traces the romance of Charles and the now Duchess of Cornwall from their first meeting 34 years ago to the day he married Diana.

But although it hints at the strong sexual attraction between the Prince and his then mistress, they are NEVER shown in bed.

Cuddle

So the on-screen passion is kept to Camilla sliding her hand up Charles' knee when he is wearing a dressing gown, and a passionate cuddle on a sofa.

The drama's first director, David Blair, pulled out

after ITV wanted some scenes re-edited. Olivia Poulet, who plays Camilla opposite Laurence Fox's Charles, said: "There would have been more sex but we were not allowed to have bed scenes for legal reasons - it did make it rather difficult."

But Laurence argues: "I think it is better not to see them doing it together."

"Who wants to see the King and Queen at it!"



NO SEX: Fox as Charles and Poulet as Camilla

UNDIE HER SPELL: Nell has revealed that she and her husband Paul are still determined to become parents - despite the tragedy of losing their unborn child



To Nell and back

MODEL Nell McAndrew is fighting fit again after her recent baby heartache.

And she says she is more determined than ever to become a mum.

The Leeds lass, 32, had to terminate her unborn baby last month following heartbreaking complications.

But Nell and her 36-year-old husband, Paul Hardcastle, have not

given up on being parents. She said: "I strongly believe things happen for a reason."

"Everything that happens in life makes you stronger and you've got to use the experience to build more strength."

"My mum had two miscarriages and then she had me. It's exciting to think forward to starting a family."

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It's a TV turn-on as Kermit and the crew return to our screens

you Muppets

RAISE the curtain and dim the lights – the Muppets are making a spectacular comeback.

Kermit and the gang will soon be back on TV in America's Next Muppet, a Pop Idol-style show where US viewers will choose a new cast member – with Miss Piggy taking the Simon Cowell judging role.

And if you can't wait for the show to hit British screens in the New Year, a DVD of the original 1976 series – The Muppet Show – will be released tomorrow. The show was once the world's most popular TV

programme, watched by 232 million viewers in more than 100 countries during its first five-year, 120-episode run.

Now Disney hopes to turn on a new generation to the furry favourites in the same year Kermit the Frog turned 50. ANDY LEA looks back at some of the Muppets' most memorable moments...

COMEDIAN Spike Milligan appeared on the show wearing a T-shirt bearing the Arabic word for hashish. It was not spotted until after the broadcast.

PAST guest stars include Elton John, John Cleese, Peter Sellers, Steve Martin, Michelle Pfeiffer, Shirley Bassey and Bob Hope.

PUPPETEER Jim Henson patched together the first incarnation of Kermit – a lizard made from ping-pong balls and his mum's coat – in 1955 for a show on a local Washington DCTV station called Sam And Friends.

Kermit, right, evolved into a frog in 1956 when he appeared on national TV in The Tonight Show with Steve Allen.



FRANK Oz, the man who played Miss Piggy and Fozzie Bear, is also the voice of Yoda in the Star Wars films.

SAM, the self-proclaimed "all-American eagle" is also voiced by Oz, who is actually English, having been born in Hereford.

THE most famous Muppets single Mah Na Mah Na, was performed by a group of pink cow-like creatures called the Snowths.

It was originally written by Italian Piero Umiliani for the 1968 Swedish sex film Svezia, Inferno Paradiso.

THE Muppets' singles releases enjoyed regular success in the charts.

But their highest position in the UK charts wasn't reached by one of the "stars". That honour went to Kermit's tiny nephew Robin, who got to No.3 in 1977 with Halfway Up The Stairs.

JIM Henson, right, brought Kermit to the hit kids' TV show Sesame Street in 1969. He became a worldwide star in 1975 as the MC in The Muppet Show, for which Henson created a string of new puppets.

HENSON coined the term Muppet from the words marionette and puppet. In the UK, comedian Harry Enfield is credited with first using the word as slang term of abuse.

MOST Muppet puppets are left-handed. This is because most puppeteers are right-handed and use their main hand to control the head and

face of the Muppet. This leaves their left hand to control the Muppet's arms. The Swedish Chef, which is controlled by two puppeteers, is the exception that proves the rule.

THE puppeteer modelled Dr Bunsen Honeydew on Lew Grade. He was said to be "delighted".

HENSON voiced and operated Kermit, Rowlf the dog and The Swedish Chef. He died in 1990 from pneumonia after a sudden infection aged just 54. His son Brian has overseen the huge Muppet empire ever since.



STATLER & WALDORF

STATLER and Waldorf, the two moaning old men in the balcony, are named after two New York hotels. Waldorf's wife is named Astoria, after the famous Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

EX-ARSENAL striker Ian Wright was fined £1,000 for calling referee Robbie Hart "a muppet" in a Premiership game at Norwich. After being booked, Wright moaned: "It's like he's putting on a show or something, waving his arms at me and yelling. He should be in The Muppet Show – not in football."

A DEBATE over what kind of animal Gonzo is raged for nearly 25 years.

In The Muppet Movie, Kermit called him "a sort of turkey...but not much". In The Great Muppet Caper, when the Muppets fly to England, Kermit's crate is marked "Frog". Fozzie's is "Bear" and Gonzo's carries the marking "Whatever".

But the answer was finally revealed in the 1999 film Muppets From Space, when Gonzo discovers his family are from outer space.

ROWLF, the piano-playing dog, made his screen debut in a dog food commercial in 1962. By the following year, the affable canine began making regular appearances on The Jimmy Dean Show.

THIS year's film, The Muppets' Wizard Of Oz, starring Quentin Tarantino and Queen Latifah, is the ninth Muppets feature film.

THE Muppet Show was axed by American network ABC in 1975 after just one pilot episode.

British TV mogul Lew Grade then invited Henson and his team to move the entire production to Borehamwood, just north of London, to make a syndicated version which would be shown on ITV.

After it became a worldwide hit, Grade sold it back to the Americans.

ANIMAL

THE Muppets' drummer was inspired by Keith Moon, of The Who.



MISS PIGGY

THE Muppets' leading lady was modelled on Loretta Swit's character Hot Lips in M*A*S*H, the hit movie that became a TV show. She now writes a raunchy column called Sow And The City on the Muppets' award-winning website.

MOTT

KUBB frontman Harry Collier did rude things with the star of his new video. The promo for Wicked Soul sees him cavorting with a fit model called Catherine. A source said: "It was steamy on set and steamier afterwards." Perks of the job, I s'pose.

SHOT



JOE MOTT'S
AWARD WINNING

hot

MOTT

BECK has recruited four QRIODream Robots for his new video. The promo for Hell Yes sees Sony's lifelike bots dancing. Director Garth Jennings said: "They're not available for five years. Experts in Japan took three weeks to program the routine into each robot."

SHOT



Picture: CHRIS LOPEZ

Bolly good show, Will

WILL YOUNG clearly isn't scared to wear a seed-threateningly tight pair of strides. My shot shows young Bill, 26, dressed as a Bollywood Elvis. Fans who want to see more should get hold of one of his limited-edition dual disc Keep On albums, which will hit shops in a week's time. The new

release sees the former Pop Idol playing a series of various daft characters to perform several tunes from the album. I must admit, I really like Keep On. He's got some great funk pop tunes on there plus a ballad which I actually enjoy. And hopefully I'll be back to normal next week.

Sick Sarah in hospital dash

GIRLS STAR COLLAPSES

GIRLS ALoud beauty Sarah Harding was rushed to hospital yesterday after she collapsed following a TV performance.

The 23-year-old singer had struggled through the band's set on ITV1 show cd:uk - but passed out moments later.

Her pals called an ambulance and doctors later diagnosed a bad liver infection.

I'm told: "Sarah hurt her hip during rehearsals earlier in the week and she thought that was what had been giving her so much discomfort."

"Her mum came down to look after her on Friday night and on Saturday morning the other girls told her not to perform. "She insisted but was in floods of tears all morning."

"As soon as they'd finished their song, Sarah stumbled back to the dressing room before going green and conking out."

"It was really scary and we got her off to a doctor straight away. "After a blood test, it turns out she's got a severe liver infection. She's been put on antibiotics and told to rest for a few days."

It's a big week for the band who face a lot of pressure with new single Biology.

On the upside, Sarah's illness may have saved **Charlotte Church's** bacon. The Welsh singer - currently in a war of words with Sarah's bandmate **Cheryl** **Twedy** - was also on the show.

My source said: "Charlotte refused to leave her dressing room and was running scared."

"If Cheryl's mind hadn't been elsewhere, she'd have gone and had it out with her."

Get well soon Sarah, a good bit of bed is clearly what you need.

Picture: GOFF



It's Kasabier

TOP lads **Kasabian** have ordered in all the beer in England ahead of recording their new album.

So I exaggerate but **Tom Meighan**, **Serge Pizzorno** and the lads have ordered £5,000 of Heineken to keep them company. I'm told: "They've had three

weeks off and start back next week. The songs are written, it's just a matter of getting in the right frame of mind to record. Beer helps a lot."

At a recent party on a swanky yacht, it was refreshing to see the lads shun champers and instead swig repeatedly and often from tins of beer.



JUSTIN HAWKINS

is being haunted by a violent poltergeist in his London home. But far from being scared, the Darkness frontman is simply annoyed.

Justin, 30, said: "There's a spirit in our house. It's a person in a white dress, I see it in mirrors and it goes around slamming doors. I'm au fait with the occult, so I set up a ouija board and I said: 'Are you there? Speak up. If we've done something to piss you off, you only have to say.'"

But the spirit has refused to talk. "Not a sausage by way of response," said Justin, whose band's new single One Way Ticket To Hell is out on Monday. "Cheeky c**t, coming into my house and slamming the doors and not even f**king responding when I say hello."

BILLY IDOL, **BRIXTON ACADEMY**, **LONDON**

GREEN DAY were still in nappies when **Billy Idol** created the blueprint for punk pop. In fact, Idol announced on stage that **Billie Joe Armstrong** told him Generation X's song Kiss Me Deadly was the reason they formed the band. Opening his first British tour for 15 years, the '80s icon gave a masterclass in anthemic feel-good rock.

All the hits were there, along with tracks from new album Devil's Playground, a brilliant acoustic Rockabilly segment and Steve Stevens flamenco guitar solo wig-out.

The set was a generous two-and-a-half hours - but still the crowd wanted More! More! **NEIL BATEY**

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COURT BATTLE: Kim

Kim's child of war

OSCAR winner Kim Basinger's daughter will be at the centre of a bitter Hollywood court battle next month.

Just 12 days before Christmas, Ireland Baldwin's mum and actor dad Alec will fire the latest shots in a child access battle that has raged since their divorce in 2002.

Baldwin, 47, is now demanding a "psychological evaluation" of Kim, 52.

Therapy

And he has also filed a formal request that she undergo therapy, claiming her desire to separate him from ten-year-old Ireland is "fuelled by untreated emotional problems".

But Kim's attorney Neal Hersh plans to question Baldwin's mental stability. His lawyer Vicki Green told the Daily Star Sunday: "Ms Basinger has started a war."

The key issue at the hearing on December 13 is Baldwin's demand for greater access to Ireland.

He currently has just one visit a week and three ten-minute phone calls but he wants Ireland to live with him one week every month.

THE proportion of motorists with penalty points on their licence has rocketed by 50% in two years. Almost 14% now have at least one conviction for a driving offence, according to a new survey for online insurance broker Confused.com

Crippling decision

A WOMAN with no arms and legs has been told she can't get benefits because she is not disabled enough. Frauke Schuermann, 36, went to her local employment office in Hamburg to see what she was entitled to after learning she might lose her job at a call centre.

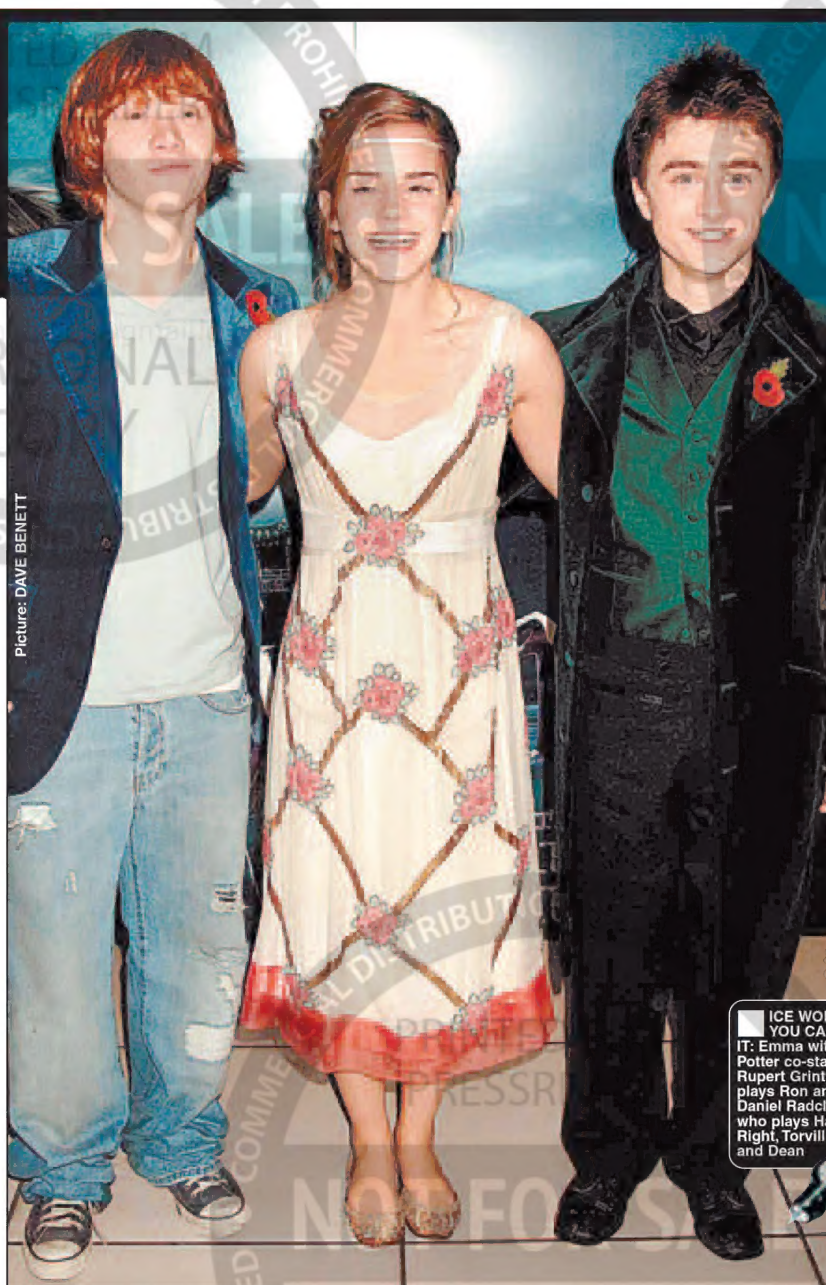
She was stunned when they told her she would receive nothing - because she was not blind as well.

Frauke said: "They told me I was not disabled enough."

A spokesman for the German welfare office confirmed they had rejected her application because her disability was "not severe enough".

DOG MAULS GIRL

A BULL mastiff that savaged a girl of 13 at her home in Colchester, Essex, causing serious throat injuries, will be put down.



Picture: DAVE BENNETT

ICE WORK IF YOU CAN GET IT: Emma with Harry Potter co-stars Rupert Grint, who plays Ron and Daniel Radcliffe, who plays Harry. Right, Torvill and Dean

Hermione bids to be ice queen

EXCLUSIVE by ANDY LEA

HARRY Potter star Emma Watson is joining the lords of the rink in a new reality TV show.

The 15-year-old, who plays Hermione Granger, is to take part in Stars On Thin Ice, a celebrity skating contest hosted by ice dance legends Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean.

Emma will be one of ten celebrities to train with the 1984 Olympic champs for five weeks before competing live on ITV1 for a place in the final. The star fell in love with

ballroom dancing on the set of her latest movie Harry Potter And The Goblet Of Fire.

And she jumped at the chance to try out her moves in the rink. An insider said: "Emma is really up for it."

Double Olympic gold medalist Dame Kelly Holmes and Princess Diana's former butler Paul Burrell will also take part in the show, to be screened next February.



'BROKEN' LOU'S SUICIDE DRAMA

LOTTO lout Michael Carroll was driven to the brink of suicide when he was ditched by his wife.

His ex-manager George Bamby claims Carroll said he'd "had enough" after Sandra Aiken started bedding their gardener.

Things got even worse when she fled to Northern Ireland taking their three-year-old daughter Brooke with her.

Bamby's biggest fear is Carroll

EXCLUSIVE by DOMINIK LEMANSKI

22, could be dead within the next year if he continues to take drugs to dull the pain of his split with Sandra and his daughter.

He added: "In my opinion he will be dead within 12 months."

"He will have no money left and will become depressed again and try to top himself."

The ex-binman's suicide drama came soon after he and Sandra wed.

The self-styled King of Chavs decided "life was not worth living" - despite his £9.7million Lotto win. Bamby, 33, revealed: "He said he'd had enough."

Tears

"It all got too much for him when his missus f---ed off with the landscape gardener taking his daughter with him."

Bamby says Carroll is far from over the split in 2003.

He added: "About six weeks ago I was in the middle of a conversation and he said he wanted to stop talking because

we were chatting about his daughter."

"Suddenly he crashed to his knees and burst into tears." Carroll, of Downham Market, Norfolk, is down to his last £250,000 after blowing the fortune he won in 2002 on booze, drugs, jewellery and cars.

And he is involved in a bitter divorce row with Sandra, 23.

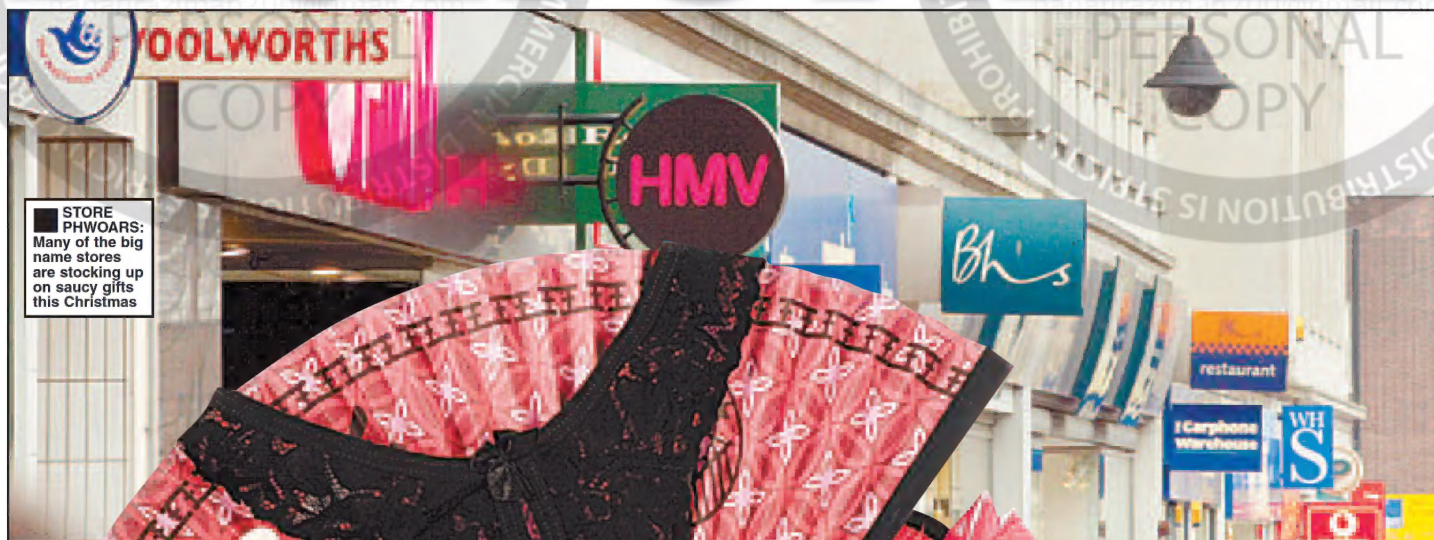
Two weeks ago we told how Carroll had dumped Little Chef waitress Gemma Pearce, 24, and moved his on-off girlfriend Sammi Howard, 17, back into his mansion.



FEUD: Carroll with Sandra

Tingle belles...Brits go for seXmas prezies that

HIGH STREET



STORE PHWOARS: Many of the big name stores are stocking up on saucy gifts this Christmas

EXCLUSIVE ■ by EMMA SHANKLAND

FORGET slippers and hankies - it's going to be an XXXmas on the high street!

A month after Superdrug started selling vibrators, other stores are packing the shelves with a range of red-hot stocking thrillers.

Bhs has the sauciest selection - including the £10 One Night In Bangkok set with a dripping candle, silky blind-fold, a finger vibrator and even a pingpong ball.

Other delights include a £5 sex timer to rate bedroom bunnies on their performances, and the £3 Optimist's Big Boy kit, complete with a ruler and magnifying glass.

Naughty

There's even Pin The Cucumber On The Hunk, for £5, and the Game Of Sexual Lies, £6, to make sure your festive party sizzles instead of fizzles.

A Bhs spokesman said: "We have more cheeky stock this year compared with last year because it sold so well."

"People seem to love the wink wink, nudge, nudge factor. It's something for them to open in private and have a bit of fun with but a lot of the stuff is also good for playing jokes on friends and family."

Not-so-bashful blokes and babes can pick up more festive fun at Woolworths.

They sell a Come To Bed Eyes' eye mask and naughty but nice fluffy handcuffs, both at £3.99 each.

Next is also helping its customers to get into the mistletoe mood with the £6.99 Hot Date kit.

And their racy Seven Saucy Sins kit, for £10, comes with sexy dare cards, a silky blind-fold and satin ties.

Lucky

Superdrug (tel: 0208 684 7000) was the first general high street store to stock sex toys - ranging from the £5.99 Durex Vibration Ring to the £29.99 Gem and £34.99 Wand.

Expected to be among the festive big sellers for the store is the Ultimate Just Got Lucky kit for the morning after, containing emergency pants, body wash, gel and a toothbrush and paste for £9.99.

And lingerie departments are warming up those long winter nights too - with Marks and Spencer's naughty red basque, £35, and thong, £8, among the favourites.

WHAT SIN STORE: The Next (0870 2435 435) range has truth or dare cards in its Seven Saucy Sins kit

Find my most ticklish point with a feather

NEXT

WOOLWORTHS

SEXY EAST: Bhs (0845 196 0000) is offering the One Night In Bangkok kit and Woolies (01706 862789) has fluffy handcuffs

are super stocking thrillers

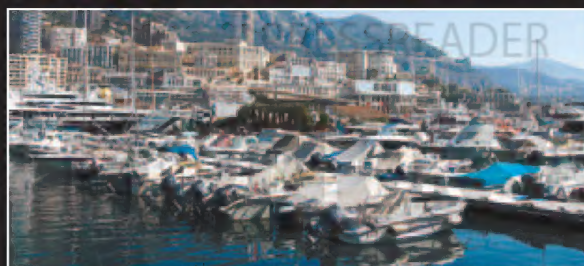
SAUCE

MARKS & SPENCER



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and thong (£8)
will be among
the big sellers
at Marks &
Spencer this
year (0845 302
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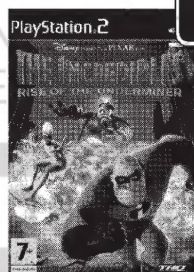
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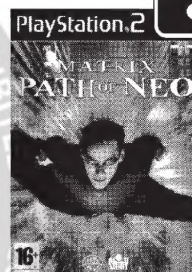
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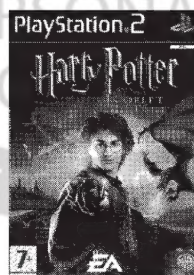


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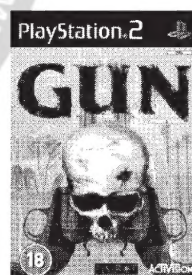
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Text DSTARSUN followed by a space, then your name and comment, and send to 61616. Texts cost 25p plus your normal mobile operator cost.

☐ GUD Katherine Heigl is gorgeous. I'd never heard of her B4, but I'm gonna stay in and watch her show on Livingtv tonite. **PERRY.**

☐ I know it was peter who nicked me slippers. Iv seen him up sayers in em! moiras too ditton widnes.

☐ well done chico u make xfactor worth watching u r a star. **Jan cardiff**

☐ Until recently I thought that I LOVE LUCY was just a tv programme but now I realise that it's my life view. **LOCAL BOY**

☐ Emmerdale crew alright man! **SETH FOR ENGLAND!**

☐ Igeyboy

☐ The French are revolting. That's hardly news is it? **Pauly.**

☐ Jamma we discussed your view on saturday, we think that both the women on the spec-savers advert are fit. **LOCAL BOY**

☐ Please print a pic of Paula Radcliffe shes so sexy. **NW**

☐ can u print a pic of Nadia from BB i think she is sexy **RC**

☐ Using predictive text when sending messages makes them

much easier to understand. Or can't you spell? **CLEVER DICK THICKIES**

☐ X factor would b better u could vote 4 who u wanted chucked out then chico wouldnt have got past 1st round. **Peter M from Weymouth**

☐ money should be rationed then we would have no poverty and no greedy millionaires! **dave hall**

☐ Guttud that sexy Nikki Sanderson leavin Corrie. Good luck babe - great 2 hear you are stayin up North. **Alan**

☐ i fink dat the tri-nations is a joke. Bowt time we hav foreign refs in our matches. No biased refs like tim mander! **scrabble.**

☐ Off 2 Southend 2 find botiful Kelly Burgess. More pics of the sexy babe pls. **Al**

☐ Mourinho should be serving himself humble pie at his

restaurant after Sunday's result. **BARRY F.**

☐ Do u pay ur reporters to get hammered on the train? If so, giz a job. **P-SSED PETE.**

☐ Kate Moss looked gorgeous on ur page 3. As did Nicole Richie on p7. Drugs can't be that bad for you eh? **Matty, Liverpool.**

☐ ALWAYS KNEW GAZZA SHULD BE IN A LOONEY BIN. HOPE HE'S KEEPING THE BARS ON THE WINDOWS OF HIS NEW GAFF. **Glasgow Dave.**

☐ Wot is Jeff Brazier thinking of going back to that minga Jade? **Ruth.**

☐ More pics of sexy Joanna Krupa please. **Jaffa.**

☐ Cilla's wedding was embarrassing. Corrie bosses shuld ditch

MOAN ON THE PHONE

HAVE a rant! If there's something you want to get off your chest, call our new mega moan line. Ring 0905 028 0055 and follow the instructions. Calls are 25p a minute on a BT landline.

Texts for Paul Ross:

☐ Top point about Blunko Rossy. Couldn't agree with you more m8. **JEZZ.**

☐ Looking forward to ur apology to Fergie after the Chelsea result Paul. **London Red.**

☐ Thanks for the tip for the Chelsea/ Man U game Paul. Any others? How about Best Mate in the 3.20 at Doncaster?

☐ Top column again Paul. Blair's lot are rotten to the core. Keep em coming. **Dave.**

FOR legal reasons, we are unable to respond to text messages. If you have a query that needs a reply, write to: Daily Star Sunday, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6EN

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£10 LETTER
☐ SEEING Kylie's smiling face in your paper made me realise just how much I've missed her over the past few months.

It's great to hear that she is putting on weight again and I think I can speak for all her fans by wishing her a speedy recovery.

ALAN DERBYSHIRE, Northants

☐ TELLY Savalas is a legend in Greece and his Greek-American cop Kojak is still a favourite. But I must admit I was a bit disappointed to learn they've changed Kojak's nationality for the new version on ITV4.

Of course, African-American Ving Rhames is a fine actor but I wish they could have found another Greek actor to carry on the Kojak name.

GEORGE KOLLOPOULOS, London

☐ I DON'T fancy Ricky Gervais' chances of

getting reclusive star Prince to appear in the next series of 'Extras' but it would be great to see him on TV again.

If Ricky manages to persuade him to step out doors again perhaps he could ask him to release a new album while he's at it.

SALLY YOUNG, Liverpool

JOHN wasn't feeling well so he went to the doctor's and told him about his sore throat.

"Hmmm," said the doctor after examining him. "Can you walk over to the window and stick your tongue out?"

"Will that make it better?" asked John.

"No, it's just that I don't like the woman who lives opposite."

HARRY SWIFT, Hull

A YOUNG woman was having a physical examination and was very embarrassed because of

• WE pay £5 for each joke printed. Write to: Joke Bloke, Daily Star Sunday, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6EN



☐ PLEASE please print a pic of Suzanne Shaw, she is by far the best looking girl around! **Than! Pete, Derby**



Text DSSJOKE (space) name and joke to 61616

her weight problem. As she removed her last piece of clothing, she blushed and said: "I'm so ashamed, doctor I guess I let myself go." The

physician was checking her eyes and ears. "Don't feel ashamed, miss. You don't look so bad."

"Do you really think so, doctor?" she asked.

The doctor held a tongue depressor in front of her face and said: "Of course. Now open your mouth and say Moo."

RICHARD HORNE, Mirfield, West Yorks

Q: WHAT'S grey, eats fish and lives in Washington DC?

A: The Presidential Seal.

P J ACKLAM, Hull

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I've retired from HELL RAISING



BOOZY DAYS: John admits he was abusing drink and cocaine but he's a reformed man now

says **JOHN THOMSON**

WILD funnyman John Thomson has kicked the booze and drugs and is happy to be tucked up in bed by ten o'clock at night.

And the Cold Feet star says his hell-raising days are definitely over.

He is a reformed character after marrying his long-term love Sam Sharp following a stormy four-year affair in which he also admitted being a love cheat.

And the friend of comedy stars James Nesbitt and Steve Coogan says he now puts all his energy into spending time with Sam and their two-year-old daughter Olivia.

John says getting married to 32-year-old Sam in May was the "best decision of my life".

Social

And being there for Olivia means he has little time for the social scene he now labels a "honey trap".

Speaking exclusively about the wedding for the first time since the big day, John, 36, said: "I'm no legendary hell-raiser any more."

"I'm in bed by 10pm these days. I'm a dad now I have too much on."

"To give you an example I have two new games for my Xbox which I have not even taken out of the cellophane. I have so little time."

Asked about his wild partying past John added: "I've been there, seen it, done it - got the T-shirt. The perks are there if I go - but I'm damned if I do and damned if I don't."

The star of The Fast



HAPPY DAYS: John says his wedding to Sam was the best day of his life

EXCLUSIVE
by DOMINIK LEMANSKI

Show went into rehab at the Priory in Cheshire in October 2002 after suffering a breakdown when Sam was pregnant.

But he says he is now rejuvenated and is enjoying a successful TV career on shows such as All Star Poker and the recent ITV comedy show Monkey Trousers, alongside pals Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer.

John reckons the turnaround in his life came thanks to getting married to Sam.

They wed this year after meeting at Manchester's Press Club six years ago.

Panto

He said: "It's like my wedding day was so good it's now difficult to follow. That was the best day of my life. Everything went swimmingly."

Work-wise, John says he has had a great year with an avalanche of offers.

He said: "I have turned down so much this year."

"I would like to do some panto though. I think it would be good craic."

As he considers the offers John is releasing his own poker DVD.

He said: "The DVD breaks the game down in layman's terms, teaches people how to play Texas Hold 'Em, lets them play me in a virtual game and teaches them the psychology behind poker."

JOHN Thomson's Red Hot Poker DVD is out tomorrow.



I'm a dad
...I've too much on

NEIL SEAN'S THE BIZ

HE KNOWS WHAT THE STARS ARE UP TO



BALLAD boys Westlife have finally revealed the truth behind why they never perform without their trusty stools. **SHANE FILAN** admitted: "It's simple. None of us have any rhythm whatsoever so it makes sense that we sit and don't stand. We had lessons once but it just did not work."

BACKSTREET boy **NICK CARTER** has revealed he has a secret recording of himself and former flame **PARIS HILTON** that he might one day leak. But unlike that dodgy tape released by her crafty ex **RICK SALOMON**, this one is of a singing duet. He revealed: "We did a duet but no way would I inflict that on the public." Ouch.

HARDLY music to our ears but former GMTV sofa smoothie **EAMMON HOLMES** apparently proved such a hit with his Celebrity Stars in Their Eyes performance as Johnny Cash that he was offered a lucrative record deal. The Sky News anchorman told me: "I'm going to relive the experience at our Christmas party but that's all. It was great fun and even led to a record deal offer but sadly I've not the time."



SEXY BEYONCÉ KNOWLES knows just how to keep her fans Crazy In Love and told me her best creative juices flow...when she's in the buff. She said: "My best ideas come to me as I get out the shower so I'm there naked, writing away. It really shocks people who walk in on me."

JUDE LAW was the studio's favourite to play the apt role of The Joker in the next Batman movie but he's not interested in taking it, I can reveal. My insider told me: "We thought he had hidden comic talents but maybe he didn't agree as he hasn't got back to us."

HOLLYWOOD legend **LIZ TAYLOR** has recorded her last-ever role - to be shown at her own funeral. The star told me: "I have written my obituary for all the papers already and I've recorded a tape to be played. I just can't trust anyone else to read it properly."

POOR, fragile **CAPRICE** has revealed the real reason she pulled out of panto after the break-up of her romance with England cricket star **KEVIN PIETERSEN**. She whined: "All that hissing and booing...I don't think I can cope with that right now."

FORMER Friends star **MATT LE BLANC** put All The Queen's Men co-star **EDDIE IZZARD's** nose out of joint - by getting more fan mail from transvestites. He said: "Me in drag got quite a reaction and I know Eddie was a tad irked by it but then I do have great legs for a skirt!"

Willing to sing...

WILL SMITH is determined to prove he's an all-singing, all-dancing superstar and, after starring in his first rom-com Hitch, he now wants to do a musical. He begged: "I can tap dance and do jazz swing dancing. I keep saying I want to do a musical but there don't appear to be any role offers of that kind for me." Someone take the hint...



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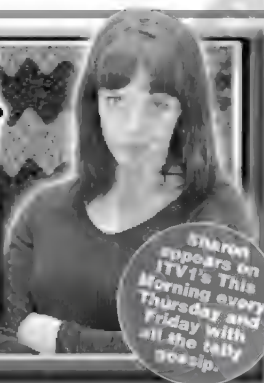
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Sharon appears on ITV's This Morning every Thursday and Friday with all the telly gossip.

SWITCH ON

● **LITTLE Britain.** It's back, darrrrrhings! (Thursday, BBC1, 9pm).

SWITCH OVER

● **CHILDREN In Need** (Friday, BBC1, 7pm-2am). Yes, I'll phone in and give some money and might make the Dr Who sketch at 9pm but I really can't be bothered with the whole marathon smugathon. I'm doing Ghostbusters, then Peter Kay and The Osbournes and The Game on C4.

A black day for Christine

A RARE apology to Colin and Justin - who I may have dismissed in the past as two pointless poofs who pollute TV airspace.

All is forgiven after watching them make an absolute hash of Christine Hamilton's house in **How Not To Decorate** (Thursday, Five).

I never really liked those Changing Rooms features where Linda Barker would stand around looking smug as people wept joyfully over her perfectly-matched soft cream sofa combos.

No, this was much more fun, as Colin and Justin managed to make Christine physically recoil at the sight of what they'd done to her home. Which is only fair - as that's the general reaction I have whenever she comes on screen.

To put into context just how bad the end result was, Christine admitted to having quite happily spent over two decades living in a flat which contained framed photographs of Margaret Thatcher.

Taste

She thought it was entirely reasonable to have wallpapered over her bathroom tiles and she joyfully co-existed with a manky carpet on the toilet floor that had absorbed 22 years of Hamilton farts.

And yet halfway through the boys' "makeover", she was begging them to put it all back the way it was before.

You have to applaud C&J for coming up with a design that Christine describes as bad taste.

This is, after all, the woman who wears magenta suits and whose main stipulation for the bathroom was that she wanted to be able to easily have sex in the bathtub with husband Neil.

Christine really should have pulled out when Justin swanned in, sporting what looked like a beret and a school uniform, and started muttering about ordering an avocado bathroom suite, adding: "I want black. I think black satin, black chiffon, black velvet. I'm thinking of doing a carpet that's significantly black."

Luckily, it all went ahead and they destroyed the place, transforming it first into a building site and then into a morgue.

Lovely highlights included Justin blasting at Christine that she was "an old bitch"; general panic by the builders as it was suspected the



LOUNGE BLIZZARD: Designers Colin and Justin with Christine and Neil Hamilton

roof was filled with asbestos; the project massively over-running on time, leading to the Hamiltons being homeless; Christine asking where her kitchen was and being told "Italy"; and a gorgeously vitriolic fax arriving from Christine which, rather worryingly on the close-up, appeared to be saying something about "humping all day" and being "knackered".

But as someone who has never been able to stomach the old hag, the absolute highlight was the look of horror on her face when her all-black living room with day-glo pink sofas was unfurled. She actually shrieked.

Nobody's looked that traumatised on TV since that time she tried to snog Ant and Dec in the jungle.

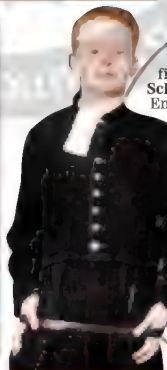
Colin and Justin are possibly the most inept designers in Britain - but they make for fabulous TV.

PITY the stuff off screen is so riveting in **EastEnders** right now as it does distract from the fact it's all been so good on screen (weekdays, BBC1).

Ian Beale's downfall was hysterical last week and those scenes in Normandy proved that the soap can work if it's taken away on location.

Not usually a fan of flashbacks - but those Nana scenes actually really worked.

Her and Alfie's pilgrimage to Wilfred's grave was fabulously well-written. And Shane Richie managed to make up for all that rot he was given with Little Mo with those scenes as he confronted Nana's terminal illness.



AND back in our final visit to **Rock School** (Friday, C4), Emperor (Josh, left) has gone all rock, grown his hair and is growling with his feet on the desk that he's now officially cool. He's so cool, the good news is he's decided to "stop learning Elvish". The bad news? "I've now moved on to Klingon."

THESE Corrie stories keep coming a bit out of the blue, don't they (weekdays, ITV1)?

Ronnie has a bit of bother off an ex and next second Steve's waving shotguns.

Martin claps eyes on Robyn one week and next he's abandoning his still traumatised family.

Best of all was the thoroughly loved-up Dev turning into a love

rat with hundreds of women and kids overnight.

Surely if he really had his own flesh and blood stashed in all the corner shops of his empire, he'd have mentioned them at some point when Maya was blowing them all up.

Anyway...great idea to make Dev a love cheat who just can't stay faithful to his women.

Scriptwriters hey? Where do they get their inspiration from?

OVER in **Emmerdale** (weekdays, ITV1) the story's broken that one of the villagers will turn out to be gay. And at Laurel's wedding Ivan revealed he's fabulous at arranging flowers. Should we take this as a clue?

TV TURN-OFF

● I LOVE Charles Worthington to death - but David Scaman's haircut was a bit camp, mate (**This Morning**, Wednesday, ITV1).

● CAROL in **Corrie** (ITV1). Oh, chill out and have a drink, luv.

TV TURN-ON

● THE Osbournes' No.1 fan, and over-emotional pizza saleswoman Laura, turning up and staying the night (**The Osbournes**, Friday, C4).

● CHRISSIE Watts getting banged up. We'll miss the lying little cow (**EastEnders**, BBC1).



CLUES: The Dales' Ivan

LOOKALIKE

IN honour of Simon's fabulous new teeth, let's change last week's Munster lookalike to this:



Gnasher

Simon Cowell

Quote of the week

For anybody watching in England - don't be scared of the light in the sky. It's the sun.

Gene Simmons shows off his LA home (**Rock School**, Friday, C4)

STONE WAS KILLED, CLAIMS FILM BOSS



MYSTERY: Brian Jones

THE director of a film about Rolling Stone Brian Jones wants police to re-open their probe into the star's death.

Jones was found dead at the bottom of his swimming pool in 1969, aged 27. It has always been thought he died from a lethal cocktail of drink and drugs.

But film director Stephen Woolley has uncovered new evidence from a nurse who was at the star's Cotchford Farm mansion in East Sussex on the night he died.

His film is based on her story that Jones was killed by his builder Frank Thorogood. He even says Thorogood confessed on his deathbed in 1993 saying, "It was me that did Brian. I just finally snapped."

Speaking after the film Stoned was

EXCLUSIVE

by DOMINIK LEMANSKI

screened at the Chicago Film Festival, Woolley said: "I spent 12 years researching and found the nurse, Janet Lawson."

"Janet had never spoken since Brian's death, not even to the police."

Parade

Woolley said Jones angered Thorogood by getting his girlfriend Anita Pallenberg to parade semi-naked around the house.

"One day, in a fit of anger, he pushed Jones under the water," said Woolley. "That is what I believe happened and that is what the film shows."



itv.com/coronationstreet

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HE'S
A HUNK

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YOU THINK
HE'S A
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Star NEWS

STAR 'N STRIPS:
Lois Lane in a patriotic bikini top for her sizzling routine in Superman telly spin-off Smallville



Picture: BWP MEDIA



Sexy Lois is a super stripper...

TELLEY'S new Lois Lane wowed Superman fans with this sexy dance on spin-off show Smallville.

The scenes in which cub reporter Lois - played by Erica Durance, 23 - poses as a stripper went down a storm in the States. And British fans will see her when the show arrives here early next year.

Erica is really enjoying following in the footsteps of stars including Teri Hatcher and fellow Canadian Margo Kidder as newshound Lois.

Tough

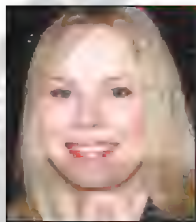
She added: "Of all the different female leads in comics, Lois Lane was always my favourite because she's a go-getter and was quite tough. She was kind of a hero in her own right."

And she has been amazed by the reaction to her role, with fans queuing up to meet her. Erica said: "I was like, 'Um, I think this line is for some other actor, not for me'. It was amazing."

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TEMPTED: Raunchy Pam

Pam's erotic dream

BILLY Connolly's wife has confessed she was tempted to cheat on him with a tattooed South Sea Islander.

Sex therapist Pamela Stephenson also revealed how she had erotic dreams about her fantasy lover.

The blonde mother-of-three, 55, bought a yacht and sailed across the Pacific after becoming fed-up with the pressures of her Hollywood life.

She'd told Billy: "I need to run away. I need a complete break."

Hunky

But when she set foot in the tropical paradise of the Marquesas Islands, she was bowled over by a young horseman on the beach.

And in her new book, *Treasure Islands*, she says the muscular hunk took her breath away.

Asked if she was tempted to be unfaithful to her husband of 22 years she replied: "You can be seriously tempted but you make a decision not to."

Billy eventually joined her for two months of her 19,000-mile journey. Now she wants to sail to the Med.

"That will be Billy's idea of fun," she said. "He'll be able to get off the boat and go to a little Italian cafe for a cup of tea. He'll like that."

Film aid blows in

HOLLYWOOD is helping out hurricane-hit Louisiana.

Studio bosses have pledged more than £115million to the crisis state.

The aid will be given in payments for filming permission for new movies and TV shows.

Film chiefs decided to relocate many of their sets to Louisiana after governor Kathleen Blanco said the state couldn't afford its share of the £2billion bill for hurricane relief.

She said: "That amount would be difficult for us in good times. These are terrible times and it's an impossible figure."

Movie bosses hope the money will provide a boost for businesses in cities such as New Orleans in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

BIG CHEESES...

A TEAM of Stilton cheese-smellers have had their noses insured for £1million - in case they lose their sniff skills at Christmas.

BURN PEUGEOTS

BP linked to online guide for rioters



Picture: ROB MATTHEWS

IDEAL DATE: Hunk Jonny Wilkinson in a pose from his official calendar. Left, cover shot and the calendars of Beckham and Flintoff. All three are available in all good stores, including Virgin, Asda and Borders, RRP £7.99, or from www.danilo.com

DAVID BECKHAM

Year we go, Jonny

RUGBY ace Jonny Wilkinson is kicking his hunky sporting rivals into touch in the battle to have the biggest-selling calendar this Christmas.

Despite being sidelined by injury, sales of his official 2006 calendar are beating those of David Beckham and Ashes hero Freddie Flintoff hands down.

Beckham's calendar looks like selling nowhere near the 400,000 copies it did last year. But a spokesman for makers Danilo said there were more for women to choose from.

She said: "You've got Jonny Wilkinson, Freddie Flintoff plus others not sports related. In the past there have been lots for the boys but very few for the girls. Jonny is really popular because he is so gorgeous."



FLAME GAME: The online magazine article

BRITISH fuel giants BP have been left red-faced after a website carrying their ads gave French rioters lessons in how to set fire to cars.

Under the headline, "So you wanna torch a Peugeot?" the online magazine explains the best ways to reduce motors to a burned-out shell.

The article is flanked by two large adverts for BP inviting readers to "learn about ways to reduce your carbon footprint". But the lessons on Slate.com will leave a far different carbon footprint on the scorched streets of France where anarchy rules.

A tide of rioting has spread across the country in the past two weeks and French President Jacques Chirac has declared a state of emergency.

Crime

Last Sunday night alone 1,400 vehicles were set alight, largely by Muslim youths angry over discrimination and unemployment.

Last night media watchdogs said it was "extraordinary" that the website was inciting crime and disorder.

The article features a picture of French rioters standing around a burning car and asks "How do you set fire to a car?"

The online guide then details how to torch cars using petrol bombs and lighter fuel. It even warns of the need to

EXCLUSIVE
by ANDY LEA

stand well away from a burning vehicle.

John Bever, director of the watchdog MediaWatch, said: "I cannot understand how a publication like this is allowed to incite crime and disorder in this way."

"It is extraordinary that activity like this should be promoted on a website."

"I would have thought the Home Office would have something to say about it."

Control

A spokesman for BP last night said they had been unaware the ad had appeared on the site.

"We do advertise in Slate, though we have not yet seen this edition," he said.

"We don't control precisely where our ads appear within magazines but clearly if they appear in the middle of an article about setting fire to cars, then the juxtaposition is highly inappropriate and we would ask Slate to move the ad."

Nip and tuck



CURVY Catherine Zeta-Jones nipped a problem in the bud after a chilly wind threatened to enhance her assets on a film set.

The mum of two, 36, who is married to superstar Michael Douglas, asked the wardrobe department on *The Legend Of Zorro* for surgical tape to cover her nipples.

An insider said: "She's a very modest lady, so the tape was ordered to spare any blushes." The film opens in the UK later this month.



EMMERDALE

SOAPER STAR

VAL'S POLL AXED

■ VAL Lambert is left heartbroken when she discovers she's being dumped by heartless boyfriend Eric Pollard.

But actress Charlie Hardwick, who plays Val, took it even worse when she first read the storyline.

■ She was stunned when she saw the script and realised her character gets thrown out on to the streets by her on-screen lover just hours before she's in court for theft.

■ In fact she was so devastated by the storyline she refused to talk to co-star Chris Chittell. Charlie said: "It was weird. When I saw the

scripts for the episode where Pollard dumps Val I started acting a bit funny towards Chris.

■ "I know it's just a storyline but I was really put out. I was heartbroken."

Val finds herself in the dock after being caught with her fingers in the till at the antiques barn.

The relationship between two of Emmerdale's biggest schemers has had viewers gripped for months.

■ It ends when Pollard realises that living with a woman about to be jailed could harm his political ambitions.

COURT OUT: Val ends up in dock



PICTURE EXCLUSIVE

PASSION: Ruby and Juley share first kiss – and head for trouble

Hot Ruby on a plate for slick Juley

TROUBLED teen Ruby Allen forgets all about being her gangster daddy's little girl when she starts snogging "bling king" Juley Smith.

She knows her hardman father Johnny would be fuming if he knew what his precious daughter was up to. But these exclusive pictures show she doesn't care.

Ruby (Louisa Lytton) has suffered a string of disturbing revelations about her family in recent weeks – including learning her dad is a murderous gangster.

Unruly Juley (Joseph Kpobie) cheers her up with a kiss as they share a secret date.

But as the pair have their first snog, her dad's arch-rival Phil Mitchell (Steve McPadden) catches the lovebirds at it and wastes no time in winding up Johnny (Billy Murray) about the romance.

And a furious row breaks out between Johnny and his daughter.

Louisa told the Daily Star Sunday: "Ruby realises she's daddy's little girl and that he doesn't want her to grow up."

"She also knows that Juley is not some-

EastEnders

one that he would approve of as he's a lot older than her.

"But where Johnny is concerned I don't think anyone will ever be right for his little girl."

"At first he bars her from seeing Juley but then changes tactics and asks him over for dinner. It comes as a massive shock. Ruby is excited about Juley coming over and is pleased her dad is coming round and accepting she is growing up."

Danger

"She isn't even worried about putting him in any danger, despite her father's background. Ruby thinks that because it's her own dad he wouldn't do anything to hurt her boyfriend."

"But I don't think Johnny will give her and Juley an easy ride."

Viewers of the BBC1 soap can catch Juley and Ruby's first kiss and their dinner date with Johnny a week tomorrow.

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ALL THE LATEST TELLY GOSSIP

Edited by
SUSAN HILL

■ **NEIGHBOURS** doctor Karl Kennedy is stalked by a woman psycho after getting hooked on internet dating. Karl (Alan Fletcher), who ditched wife Susan last year, gets more than he bargained for when he arranges to meet a "tall blonde". The babe turns out to be a dumpy middle-aged nutcase who doesn't take well to rejection.

PLATT MAIL!



■ **OH BROTHER:** Sneaky David sees his chance to make some easy cash after catching sister Sarah Lou and Jason in the sack



LOSER: Randy Richard

KO for Dicky the rat

HOLLYOAKS

■ **FURIOUS** Liz Burton throws out her cheating husband Richard – despite his pathetic pleas for forgiveness.

The feisty blonde (Andree Bernard) is fuming after finding out sordid details of his sex romps with a mystery woman.

■ But the lusty gym boss doesn't just get shunned by his wife. His daughter Darlene (Sarah Lawrence) also turns her back on him and vows to stay with her new stepmum.

The teenager has still not forgiven her dad (Richard Calkin) for his late arrival at hospital when her brother Ali was killed.

■ And she was the first person to discover his infidelity with a mystery colleague and resented having to keep his seedy secret.

A Hollyoaks insider said: "Darlene hated her dad for his affair. And she vented even more anger against him when Ali died."

■ The source added: "Viewers have been waiting for him to get his comeuppance and they won't be disappointed."

Fans of the Channel 4 soap will be able to catch all the drama a week tomorrow.

HERE'S the moment scheming David Platt hatches a blackmail plot – after catching his big sister romping with Jason Grimshaw.

Mum-of-one Sarah-Lou fakes a headache and gets out of work at the hair salon early in a bid to bed the hunky builder.

She also hopes to convince him to ditch barmaid babe Violet, actress Jenny Platt, once and for all.

But her plot is foiled when her sneaky schoolboy brother catches them at it and demands money in exchange for his silence.

Sexy Sarah-Lou, played by Tina O'Brien, is desperate to have Jason all to herself after he rekindles his relationship with love rival Violet.

And she's sure that an afternoon of lust

David hits on sister

CORONATION ST.

will do the trick. But after catching them between the sheets, devious David, played by Jack P. Shepherd, threatens to tell all to Violet unless they hand over a £20 note.

Seething

And while Sarah-Lou is left seething at her brother's scheming, Jason, actor Ryan Thomas, is quietly relieved as he has got no intention of ditching his other love.

A Coronation Street insider said:

"Jason still loves Violet but he just can't resist Sarah. Obviously, Violet has absolutely no idea what he's been getting up to behind her back."

"But with Sarah wanting more than just a quick romp every now and then he's got himself into a bit of a mess."

"And with David now knowing the truth it's going to be even harder for him to keep his affair a secret."

"Like most things that go on in Weatherfield, these things tend to come out eventually."

Viewers of the hit ITV1 soap will be able to catch all the drama a week tomorrow in a special triple dose of Coronation Street.

PINT PULLER: Jase loves barmaid Violet



■ **SEXY** Michelle Gayle raises more than a few eyebrows when she makes a shock appearance in Charnham to visit love rat Marc McKenzie.

The former *EastEnders* star, pops up as the cheat's ex Lara. And she also brings along his secret daughter Poppy.

■ Marc walked out on her without telling any of his own family the girl existed. But now Lara needs the serial bed-hopper, played by Graham Bryan, to look after their daughter as she has to attend her mum's funeral.

■ But when Marc is forced to face up to his responsibilities, his own dad

family affairs

Doug (Gareth Hale) has plenty to say about his appalling behaviour.

■ An insider said: "Marc has done a lot of things in his time but keeping Poppy a secret from his dad for so many years really infuriates Doug."

"He's always been there for his son and he wastes no time laying into him."

Fans of the C5 soap can catch the Lara drama on Tuesday.

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But a few simple tips can cut your risk of falling victim to thieves...

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Make sure there's a padlock security symbol in the corner of your screen when you're buying online.

And NEVER EVER tell anyone your pin number - even if they claim to be from your bank.

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HALIFAX	9.7%	£162.28	£5,842.08	£348.48
HSEC	13.9%	£168.68	£6,072.48	£578.88

Monthly repayments do not include the Loan Payment Protection Plan. All rates correct as at 31.10.05. Source: Moneyfacts Datascreen.

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Don't get wrapped in store card scam

CHRISTMAS is coming, so now's the time to sort out how you're going to fund it.

■ by **MICHELLE CARTER**

We're expected to spend between £600 and £800 EACH on presents, food, drink and partying.

And one in four of us plans to borrow either as loans or on plastic.

Whichever way you choose it's vital you get the best deal and don't fall into panic-buying traps.

And the biggest no-nos are store cards.

Shop at a department store, electrical shop or DIY chain and once you're at the till the chances are you'll be offered a discount if you take out a card there and then and put your purchases on it.

If you're strapped for cash it seems like an easy option but with interest

rates at an average 30% APR you'll be paying way over the odds.

"Don't be fooled into thinking you'll pay off a store card balance in the New Year," warns John Bluer of Simple Debt Solutions.

"If you can't afford it now you most definitely will not be able to afford it then and will be stuck with extra debt at a very high APR."

And if you fall into the trap of only paying back the minimum every month you could end up owing twice the price of your purchases in interest payments alone.

Last year we put £27billion on our credit cards over the Christmas period and this year we're expected to spend

even more. By swapping to 0% plastic for purchases, credit card comparison site uSwitch.com reckons we could save almost £350million between us.

They say one in three of us doesn't repay our Christmas spending until the end of the following March - so you'd save all the interest you'd have had to pay on the three months from paying for your Christmas on your new 0% purchase plastic.

Bills

Nick White of uSwitch.com said: "Make an early New Year resolution and start thinking about the best way to pay for Christmas now."

"It's all too easy to forget about Christmas spending until the New Year when the bills hit your doormat."

"But by doing some research now and making the right financial choices before you start buying presents, you could limit at least one hangover during the Christmas period."

"If you're struggling financially in

January you need to take control now before the debts get worse."

Credit cards to check out include:

● Halifax One Visa (0845 728 3848) 0% on purchases for 12 months, standard APR 12.9%.

● Sainsbury's Bank (0800 032 1365) 0% on purchases for 10 months, standard APR 15.9%.

● HSBC (0800 130 130) 0% on purchases for nine months, standard APR 13.9%.

Take out a £5,000 loan over three years to pay for Christmas and the average monthly repayment is £181.22 with insurance and £156.63 without.

But, according to financial data firm Moneyfacts, you could save £583.92 over the three years getting the best deal with insurance or £238.68 without it.

The best deal works out at £5,940 over the three years with insurance, or

£5,400 without. Samantha Owens of Moneyfacts said: "With so many of us now admitting we don't save for Christmas it's inevitable that we should have to borrow money in one form or another."

"But you can save hundreds of pounds by shopping around."

"You shouldn't take out the first loan you see, though, and remember that not everyone will receive the attractive low headline rate."

"You should always check out the actual rate being offered and decide whether it's still an attractive deal."

Possible loans to look at include:

● Moneyback Bank (www.moneyback.co.uk) 5.7%.

● Northern Rock (0845 330 7130) 5.7%.

● Amber Loan (0800 587 3016) 6.5%.

Would you credit it?

● IT could take years to clear your Xmas bills if you repay only the minimum each month on your credit card. One with a 15.9% APR would take you 19 years to repay £800 and cost over £500 in interest.

Cashpoint Best Buys

Compiled by www.moneysupermarket.com on 09/11/05

moneysupermarket.com
the price comparison site

LOANS

Source: www.moneysupermarket.com

Best Buy Loans for £5,000 over 3 years

Lender	Contact	Typical APR	Without Insurance	Term	Redemption Penalty
Abbey Personal Loan	0870 609 2430	5.7%	£151.11	1-8 yrs	Up to 1 mths interest
Northern Rock Loan	0845 330 7130	5.7%	£151.19	1-10 yrs	None
Moneyback Bank Loan	www.moneybackbank.co.uk	5.7%	£151.19	1-7 yrs	Up to 1 mths interest
cahoot fixed rate loan	www.cahoot.com	5.8%	£151.32	2-7yrs	Up to 1 mths interest

CREDIT CARDS

Introductory Rate for Purchases

Card Issuer	Contact	Card Type	Introductory Purchase Rate	Until	Typical APR (variable)	Interest Free Period
Halifax	www.halifax.co.uk	One Visa	0% p.a.	12 mths	12.90%	59 days
Sainsbury's Bank	www.sainsburybank.co.uk	Standard Visa	0% p.a.	10 mths	15.90%	50 days
MINT	0800 077 770	Classic MasterCard	0% p.a.	01-Sep-06	14.90%	59 days
Nationwide BS	0800 30 20 10	Classic Visa	0% p.a.	9 mths	14.90%	56 days

Source: www.moneysupermarket.com

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Period covered: 25 years. Sum assured £100,000.

Male aged 30 years, non-smoker.			Female aged 30 years, non-smoker.		
Provider	Premium*	Contact	Provider	Premium*	Contact
Standard Life	£7.69	0845 60 60 002	Legal & General	£6.50	0800 096 6959
Liverpool Victoria	£7.70	08000 85 88 11	Friends Provident	£6.63	0800 000 080
Prudential	£7.82	0800 072 5551	Standard Life	£6.66	0845 60 60 002
Male aged 30 years, smoker.			Female aged 30 years, smoker.		
Provider	Premium*	Contact	Provider	Premium*	Contact
Legal & General	£12.80	0800 096 6959	Legal & General	£10.70	0800 096 6959
Scottish Equitable	£13.03	08456 10 00 10	Scottish Equitable	£10.82	08456 10 00 10
Norwich Union	£13.10	0800 092 7750	Prudential	£10.97	0800 072 5551

Prices may vary depending on individual circumstances.
*Per month

Source: www.moneysupermarket.com

Lenders standard redemption conditions may also apply at any time. All rates and terms are subject to change without notice and should be checked before finalising any arrangement. No liability can be accepted for any direct or consequential loss arising from the use of, or reliance upon, this information. Readers who are not financial professionals should seek advice.

MORTGAGES

Source: www.moneysupermarket.com

Fixed Rate Mortgages (without extended redemption penalty)

Lender	Contact	Rate	Lenders SVR	Duration	Max LTV	Arrangement Fee	Early Repayment Charge Until
Britannia BS	0845 842 9429	4.24%	6.10%	2 Years	95%	£499	2 Years
Chelsea BS	0845 055 4567	4.59%	6.49%	31-Jan-11	95%	£690	31-Jan-11
Newcastle BS	08000 85 20 20	4.75%	6.52%	31-Jan-16	90%	£450	31-Jan-16

Discount Mortgages (without extended redemption penalty)

Lender	Contact	Rate	Lenders SVR	Duration	Max LTV	Arrangement Fee	Early Repayment Charge Until
Portman BS	0845 845 7000	4.24%	6.50%	31-Dec-07	95%	£499	31-Dec-07
National Counties BS	01372 744 155	4.40%	6.49%	5 Years	80%	£395	5 Years
Furness BS	0800 22 05 68	4.98%	6.39%	Term	90%	£199	None

First Time Buyer Mortgages (95% ltv, No HLC fee, variable unless stated)

Lender	Contact	Rate	Lenders SVR	Duration	Max LTV	Arrangement Fee	Early Repayment Charge Until
Newbury BS	01635 555777	4.15%	5.65%	1 Year	95%	£295	3 Years
The Woolwich	0845 607 1111	4.89% (Fixed)	6.59%	31-Mar-11	95%	£445	31-Mar-11
Norwich & Peterborough BS	0845 300 2522	4.89%	6.30%	Term	95%	£599	None

100% Mortgages (variable or tracker rate unless stated)

Lender	Contact	Rate	Lenders SVR	Duration	Max LTV	Arrangement Fee	Early Repayment Charge Until
Royal Bank of Scotland	0800 917 3025	5.00%	6.59%	01-Jan-08	100%	£495	01-Jan-08
Portman BS	0845 845 7000	5.25% (Fixed)	6.50%	31-Dec-10	100%	£299	31-Dec-10
Manchester BS	0161 833 8884	5.78%*	6.54%	Term	100%**	£495	5 Years

*For First Time Buyers Only

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BOT A FEELING: STUNNING VIDA DRIVES 'EM LO

REARLY FABULOUS: Vida shows she's hot to trot as she recreates poses from the film *Flashdance*

Pictures: CONTOUR PHOTOS

Flesh



EXCLUSIVE

by EMMA BAMFORD

SEXY Vida Guerra gives Daily Star Sunday readers a flash of her best asset in these saucy shots inspired by '80s movie *Flashdance*.

The Cuban cracker, voted America's Rear of the Year, recreates poses made famous in the flick by actress Jennifer Beals dancing to the song *What A Feeling*.

The 5ft 3in babe shows she's not stuff, whether she's strutting around in legwarmers and stilettos or a skin-tight body and welder's mask.

The shapely 34C-25-37 looker says she has attracted an army of male fans because she has an "angelic face with devilish curves".

Vida, 25, a former loans officer, was born in Havana, Cuba, but fled to the States with her family when she was five. She hit the big time after a boyfriend sent snaps of her into a lads' mag.

Teased

The booty-ful minx has since danced in the video for P Diddy's *Shake Ya Tailfeather* and will soon be seen on the big screen in National Lampoon Presents: *Dorm Daze 2* - her first Hollywood role.

But her amazing figure hasn't always been an asset to her. "I used to get teased all the time in grade school because I was this really skinny girl but my butt was huge," she said.

"I would always be in the principal's office because someone had grabbed my butt and made me cry."

Now her extraordinary rear phew is the making of her.

REARLY FABULOUS: The Cuban cracker boasts 34C-25-37 curves and has been named America's Rear of the Year.

